

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00226 210522Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2336

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0226

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, QA, LE

SUBJECT: QATARI ASSISTANCE TO AUB

REF: DOHA 142, DOHA 150

1. DURING COURSE OF MEETING ON FEB 19, AUB REP DR. ELI SALEM AND NAJEEB E. HALABY, HEAD OF AUB SERVICES CORP., INFORMED CHARGE AND EMBASSY ECON OFFICER THAT GOQ HAD AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO AUB FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CHAIR IN PETROLEUM ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES. DR. SALEM SAID THAT HE EXPECTED TO PICK UP THE CHECK ON MORNING OF FEB 20.

2. DR. SALEM SAID THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF ELIMINATION OF WORD "AMERICAN" FROM AUB NAME AND A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION FROM SAUDI ARABIA, GOQ INFORMED HIM THAT THIS WAS THE BEST IT COULD DO UNDER THESE TWO RESTRAINTS, AND EVEN THIS CONTRIBUTION HAD TO BE HANDLED IN FORM OF ESTABLISHMENT OF CHAIR RATHER THAN OUTRIGHT GIFT TO AUB. IN THIS REGARD, DR. SALEM SAID THAT AMIR OF QATAR PREFERRED CHAIR IN PETROLEUM ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES RATHER THAN CHAIR IN ISLAMIC STUDIES.

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3. DR. SALEM SAID THAT HE FINALLY MANAGED TO GET THIS DONATION OUT OF GOQ BY HANGING AROUND THE PALACE AND THE AMIR'S OFFICE FOR SEVEN DAYS AND BY LOOKING HUNGRIER AND HUNGRIER WITH EACH PASSING DAY.

4. UPON RECEIPT OF CHECK FROM GOQ, DR. SALEM SAID THAT HE PLANS TO PROCEED DIRECTLY TO ABU DHABI WHERE HE HOPES TO USE

CHECK FROM GOQ AS BAIT TO COLLECT ON THE PROMISE OF FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE TO AUB FROM SHAYKH ZAYID.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

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